Fact Sheet

Prisoner Transportation

Fiscal 2014 Data	
Total federal prisoner movements	275,468
Movements by air	96,985
Movements by ground	178,483

- ▶ The U.S. Marshals' Justice Prisoner and Alien Transportation System (JPATS) transports prisoners between judicial districts and correctional institutions in the U.S., including Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.
- ▶ JPATS is one of the largest transporters of prisoners in the world handling 1,070 movements per day on average.
- ▶ JPATS transports prisoners in federal custody between federal judicial districts to hearings, court appearances and detention facilities.
- Prisoner movements take place for a variety of reasons, such as to testify at a trial, serve a sentence at a facility or transfer between institutions. Prisoners can also be moved for pre-trial hearings, competency examinations, studies or observations.
- When a prisoner is in transit, the Marshals Service does not disclose any transportation details except verification that an inmate is in Marshals' custody and confirmation when a prisoner movement has been completed.
- ▶ JPATS operates a network of aircraft, cars, vans and buses to accomplish these coordinated movements.
- ▶ JPATS operates a fleet of aircraft to move prisoners over long distances more economically and with higher security than commercial airlines.
- ▶ JPATS is the only government-operated, regularly-scheduled passenger airline in the nation.
- ▶ JPATS routinely serves approximately 42 cities, plus other major cities in the U.S. on an as-required basis.
- ▶ Nearly all air movements are aboard aircraft owned by JPATS.
- ▶ Civilian (state and local) and military law enforcement agencies are able to use JPATS for their prisoner transportation requirements on a space-available, cost-reimbursement basis.
- ▶ JPATS' executive leadership, business office, prisoner scheduling and information technology are located in Kansas City, Mo.
- JPATS' air operations are centered in Oklahoma City with a hub in Las Vegas.